

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/988,499  
Amendment dated July 21, 2004  
Office Action dated April 21, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning after the title with the following paragraph:

This application is a Continuation In Part of prior application Serial No. 09/367,936,  
filed August 24, 1999, now abandoned, which was the 35 USC 371 National Stage of  
International Application No. PCT/JP98/05962, filed December 25, 1998.